

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/029,534

Examiner

Stefan Staicovici

Applicant(s)

MAUMUS ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed July 22, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-35 and 37 (now renumbered as 1-13).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on July 22, 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/11/04</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/ Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>interview summary of 8/11/04</u> . |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicants' amendment filed July 22, 2004 has been entered. Claims 1-23 have been canceled. New claims 24-37 have been added. Claims 24-37 are pending in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Charles Gagnebin III on August 11, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

- claim 35 has been amended as follows:

35. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a honeycomb structure comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a fiber fabric,
- b. impregnating the fiber fabric with a resin,
- c. making parallel cuts in a staggered configuration all through the resin impregnated fiber fabric,

d. stretching the fabric in a direction parallel to a surface thereof so as to form honeycomb cells in the positions that correspond to the cuts,

e. causing a plurality of expandable pegs to simultaneously penetrate into respective ones of the cells, each peg having a cross-section of size smaller than that of the corresponding cell, the pegs being mounted on a support plate and projecting substantially perpendicularly from the support plate, the pegs being mounted loosely on the support plate to allow a limited angular and lateral movement of the pegs relative to the support plate,

f. causing the pegs to expand so that they fill the cells and exert pressure on the inside faces of the cells,

g. curing the resin,

h. causing the pegs to shrink, and

j. withdrawing the pegs.

- claim 36 has been canceled.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not teach or suggest a process for manufacturing a honeycomb structure including, providing a resin impregnated fiber fabric having a plurality of staggered honeycomb cells, providing a plurality of expandable pegs mounted on a support plate and projecting substantially perpendicularly from the support plate, causing the pegs to expand so that they fill the cells and exert pressure on the

inside faces of the cells, curing the resin, causing the pegs to shrink and withdrawing the pegs, wherein:

(a) said pegs are mounted loosely on the support plate to allow a limited angular and lateral movement of the pegs relative to the support plate; or

(b) applying a backing plate against the fiber fabric, said backing plate having holes in positions that correspond to the cells and to the pegs, such as to hold the fiber fabric between the support plate and the backing plate.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stefan Staicovici, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-1208. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael P. Colaianne, can be reached on (571) 272-1196. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


STEFAN STACOVICI, PHD 2/18/04
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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August 18, 2004